

REMARKS

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3, 5-8, 10, and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Murayama. This includes both independent claims 1 and 8. Applicant submits that these claims, as amended, are not anticipated by Murayama.

The Examiner states as follows on Page 2, last paragraph:

Regarding claim 3 and 5, Murayama discloses in Fig. 6 the die is rounded at the corner edge portion, wherein an entire thickness from the upper to the lower major surface is rounded.

Referring to Figure 6 of Murayama, it can clearly be seen that the edges at D are flat, giving the die an eight-sided profile. The corners at D are thus not rounded. Murayama also states in Paragraph 0039 as follows:

There is a contour of a semiconductor chip 12 or a substrate 10 as shown in Fig. 6 wherein corners thereof are cut off. In such a semiconductor chip 12 or substrate 10, an imaginary corner D is conveniently defined by an intersection between extensions of the respective sides, and a diagonal line is defined by a straight line connecting these imaginary corners D with each other.

There is thus no suggestion in Murayama that the corners can be profiled in any other manner than by cutting them off in "a straight line."

Claims 1 and 8 now specifically include the limitation that the die is rounded at the corner edge portion. These claims thus include at least one limitation that is not suggested by Murayama. Claims 2, 4-7, 9, and 11-14 depend

from either claim 1 or claim 8, and should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 8. Claims 3 and 10 have been cancelled.

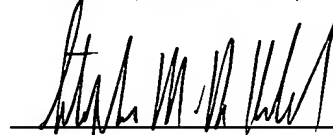
Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the remaining rejections against claims 1-2, 4-9, and 11-14, and allowance of the patent application.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Stephen M. De Klerk at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Any necessary extension of time for response not already requested is hereby requested. Please charge any corresponding fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP



Stephen M. De Klerk
Reg. No. 46,503

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12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300

Zhiyong Wang, et al.
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